

**Draft**  
**Environmental Assessment**  
**Lone Pine State Park Land Acquisition &**  
**Archery Range Expansion**



**2021**



**Draft Environmental Assessment  
MEPA, NEPA, MCA 23-1-110 CHECKLIST**

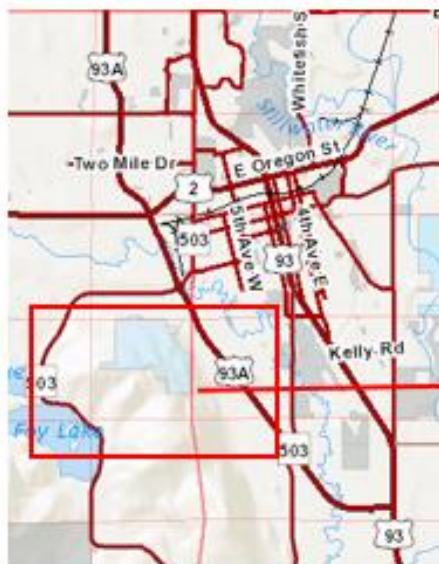
**PART I. PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION**

- 1. Type of proposed state action:** Land purchase and archery range expansion
  
- 2. Agency authority for the proposed action:**  
Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
490 North Meridian Road  
Kalispell, MT 59901
  
- 3. Anticipated Schedule:**  
Estimated Commencement Date: 12/15/2022  
Estimated Completion Date: 08/31/2022  
Current Status of Project Design (% complete): 85%
  
- 4. Location affected by proposed action:** Section 24, T28N, R22W

Project location: Kalispell, MT, Flathead County

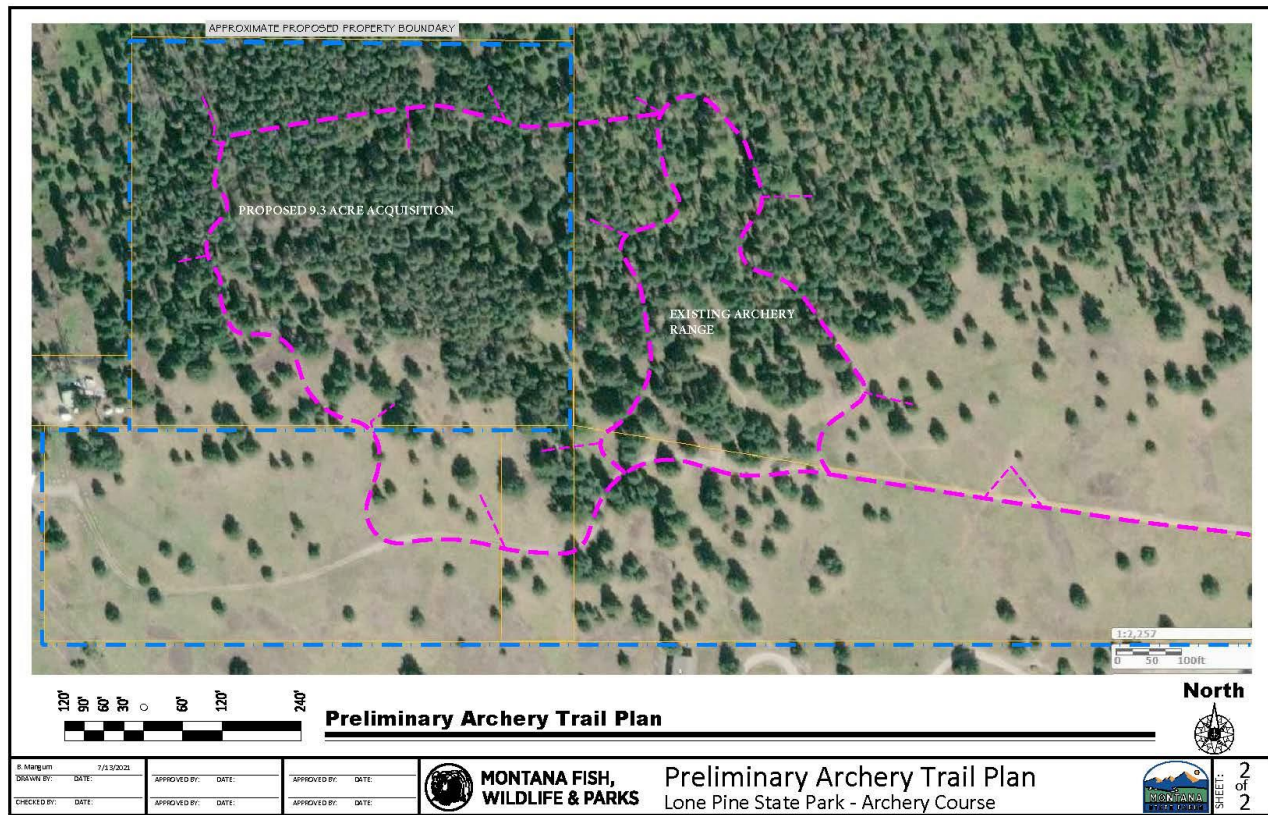


Kalispell, MT



Lone Pine State Park – existing archery range location





5. Project size -- estimate the number of acres that would be directly affected that are currently:

	Acres		Acres
(a) Developed:		(d) Floodplain	0
Residential	0		
Industrial	0	(e) Productive:	
(existing shop area)		Irrigated cropland	0
(b) Open Space/	20	Dry cropland	0
Woodlands/Recreation		Forestry	0
(c) Wetlands/Riparian	0	Rangeland	0
Areas		Other	0

7. Permits, Funding & Overlapping Jurisdiction.

(a) **Permits:** None  
Agency Name None Permits NA

(b) **Funding:**  
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Funding Amount: \$191,000



(c) **Other Overlapping or Additional Jurisdictional Responsibilities:**

Agency Name: None

Type of Responsibility: NA

**8. Narrative summary of the proposed action:**

FWP proposes the purchase of 9.3 acres of property that would add capacity to the existing Lone Pine State Park archery range. Approximately 2,000 feet of new trail and six target locations would be added to the current archery range route. This proposal would take advantage of a Pittman Robertson Act grant, administered by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, that is aimed at increasing public shooting sport opportunities. The current range at Lone Pine offers six target locations and has seen a significant increase in use. Self-registration at the Lone Pine range indicates a 30% increase in use in the past few years (578 archers in 2010 to 1929 archers in 2020). This is based on voluntary registration log, so these numbers only represent partial usership, but display a steady upward trend in use.

The subject property is undeveloped and located adjacent to the existing archery range. The topography of this addition would provide safe and diverse target locations, while adding an additional safety buffer from adjoining private properties.

The Lone Pine State Park archery range is the only developed, outdoor public archery range in the Flathead Valley. It has become increasingly popular as a location to learn and hone archery skills. Montana has a growing number of schools participating in the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP). More than 70 schools are enrolled in the program, and northwest Montana is rapidly growing enrollment with 18 schools/programs enrolled. Since 2019, 5 new schools in northwest Montana have enrolled in the program due to resources and opportunities provided by FWP and its sites, such as the archery range at Lone Pine State Park. The NASP program can be taught indoors using the gymnasium or outdoors. Ranges such as the one at Lone Pine State Park provide opportunities for NASP programs, trainings, and public education events that promote NASP and bowhunter education.

**9. Description and analysis of reasonable alternatives:**

**Alternative A: No Action**

Under this alternative, FWP would not acquire 9.3 acres and the Lone Pine State Park public archery range would remain at its current size and configuration. FWP anticipates that demand for the range will continue to increase, creating congestion and heavy use of the current facility.

**Alternative B: Proposed Action**

Under the proposed action, FWP would acquire an adjoining 9.3-acre parcel and increase opportunity at the Lone Pine State Park public archery range. The existing trail would be

lengthened by approximately 2,000 feet, and up to six new targets would be incorporated into the existing range, providing safe shooting lanes with increased visibility. Please see the map above for the proposed configuration. Lone Pine State Park staff would continue provide maintenance, ensure safety, and provide archery programming for park visitors.

**Other Alternatives:**

FWP has considering redesigning and adding capacity to the existing range but determined that to do so would encroach on other regions of the park that are experiencing heavy use for hiking and bicycling.

**10. Evaluation and listing of mitigation, stipulation, or other control measures enforceable by the agency or another government agency:**

- FWP would utilize the public use rules in accordance with the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) to ensure and to promote safety and resource conservation.
- The FWP Region 1 Noxious Weed Control Plan would continue to be implemented for the control of noxious weeds on the subject property.



## **PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW CHECKLIST**

**Evaluation of the impacts of the Proposed Action including secondary and cumulative impacts on the Physical and Human Environment.**

### **A. PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT**

1. <b><u>LAND RESOURCES</u></b> Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Soil instability or changes in geologic substructure?			x		yes	1b
b. Disruption, displacement, erosion, compaction, moisture loss, or over-covering of soil, which would reduce productivity or fertility?		x				
c. Destruction, covering or modification of any unique geologic or physical features?		x				
d. Changes in siltation, deposition or erosion patterns that may modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed or shore of a lake?		x				
e. Exposure of people or property to earthquakes, landslides, ground failure, or other natural hazard?		x				

2a. There will be some minor soil disturbance for the construction of new pedestrian trails (approximately 2,000 feet long and 18-24 inches wide). Any trail construction will follow current trail design standards to minimize erosion and foot traffic impacts on the surrounding habitat.

2. <b><u>AIR</u></b> Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Emission of air pollutants or deterioration of ambient air quality? (Also see 13 (c).)		x				
b. Creation of objectionable odors?		x				
c. Alteration of air movement, moisture, or temperature patterns or any change in climate, either locally or regionally?		x				
d. Adverse effects on vegetation, including crops, due to increased emissions of pollutants?		x				
e. For P-R/D-J projects, will the project result in any discharge, which will conflict with federal or state air quality regulations? (Also see 2a.)		x				



3. <u>WATER</u>  Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Discharge into surface water or any alteration of surface water quality including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity?		x				
b. Changes in drainage patterns or the rate and amount of surface runoff?			x		yes	3b
c. Alteration of the course or magnitude of floodwater or other flows?		x				
d. Changes in the amount of surface water in any water body or creation of a new water body?		x				
e. Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding?		x				
f. Changes in the quality of groundwater?		x				
g. Changes in the quantity of groundwater?		x				
h. Increase in risk of contamination of surface or groundwater?		x				
i. Effects on any existing water right or reservation?		x				
j. Effects on other water users as a result of any alteration in surface or groundwater quality?		x				
k. Effects on other users as a result of any alteration in surface or groundwater quantity?		x				
l. For P-R/D-J, will the project affect a designated floodplain? (Also see 3c.)		x				
m. For P-R/D-J, will the project result in any discharge that will affect federal or state water quality regulations? (Also see 3a.)		x				

3b. Any disruption in water drainage patterns will be minimal if noticeable. Standard trail design standards and trail drainage features would be utilized to control and channel surface runoff to prevent erosion.

4. <b><u>VEGETATION</u></b>  Will the proposed action result in?	IMPACT					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Changes in the diversity, productivity or abundance of plant species (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, and aquatic plants)?			x		no	4a
b. Alteration of a plant community?			x		no	4a
c. Adverse effects on any unique, rare, threatened, or endangered species?		x				
d. Reduction in acreage or productivity of any agricultural land?		x				
e. Establishment or spread of noxious weeds?			x		yes	4e
f. For P-R/D-J, will the project affect wetlands, or prime and unique farmland?		x				
g. Other:		x				

4a. Any alteration in the plant community would be minimal. There are no current plans for tree removal for this project and the only plant species on the proposed trail footprint, target locations, and archery shooting stations would be disturbed.

4c. The archery trail will have a small footprint with negligible impact on the native plant community through which it passes. No state or federally listed plant species have been documented within the project area. Noxious weeds will be controlled within the project area as part of a larger, park-wide weed management program.

4e. This area already has multiple noxious weed species, but it is also reviewed for annual control measures including spraying and hand pulling. New trail construction would be closely monitored for any new noxious weed establishment and corrective action would be taken according to the noxious weed management plan.

5. <u>FISH/WILDLIFE</u> Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Deterioration of critical fish or wildlife habitat?		x				
b. Changes in the diversity or abundance of game animals or bird species?		x				
c. Changes in the diversity or abundance of nongame species?		x				
d. Introduction of new species into an area?		x				
e. Creation of a barrier to the migration or movement of animals?		x				
f. Adverse effects on any unique, rare, threatened, or endangered species?		x				5h
g. Increase in conditions that stress wildlife populations or limit abundance (including harassment, legal or illegal harvest or other human activity)?			x		yes	5g
h. For P-R/D-J, will the project be performed in any area in which T&E species are present, and will the project affect any T&E species or their habitat? (Also see 5f.)			x		Yes	5h
i. For P-R/D-J, will the project introduce or export any species not presently or historically occurring in the receiving location? (Also see 5d.)		x				

5g. The proposed acquisition would increase human presence in an undeveloped area, and potentially increase conditions that stress wildlife. FWP anticipates current use patterns will stay consistent, with mid-summer to early fall being the heaviest use periods for the archery range. The Lone Pine State Park archery range has historically been closed during the winter months. FWP would implement visitor use rules and information that have been in use for many years at Lone Pine that are intended to minimize wildlife impacts. These rules include strict enforcement of pet leash rules, staff presence, and educational materials and programming geared towards living with wildlife.

#### 5h. Threatened and Endangered species

According to information provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), there are a total of four threatened and one candidate species that have the potential to occur on this project area: Canada lynx (*Lynx canadensis*) (Threatened), grizzly bear (*Ursus arctos horribilis*) (Threatened), yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) (Threatened), Spalding's catchfly (*Silene spaldingii*) (Threatened), and monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) (Candidate). There are no critical habitats for any of these species on the project area according to the USFWS.

Grizzly bears have a home range across northwest Montana, including the project area, but this area is not considered primary habitat for this species. If FWP were to acquire this property and develop it into an archery range, any grizzly bears that move through the area would still be able to do so. The archery range expansion would not create any additional

grizzly bear attractants. Canada lynx could also pass through this property, but it does not provide primary habitat for this species or even a known movement corridor. Any Canada lynx that did move through this property would not likely be impacted by development of this small archery range addition. There is a much higher chance of impacts and conflicts with grizzly bears and Canada lynx to occur if FWP did not purchase this property and it was developed for industrial or residential purposes.

Information on the current status of the yellow-billed cuckoo is limited. Historically, they have only been observed in Montana in June and July within open and riparian woodlands. The grassy, open project area does not have this type of habitat, so cuckoos would not be affected by this proposed project. Neither Spalding's catchfly monarch butterflies are known to occur on or near the project area. These species would not be affected by the proposed project.

According to the Montana Natural Heritage Website, the Brown Creeper, Great Blue Heron, and Rufous Hummingbird have been observed outside of the project area in similar habitats. The proposed project will have little to no impact on habitat associated with these species. The Northern Leopard Frogs have been documented within a mile of the project area. Although these species are present near the project area, the project goals will not affect these populations.

Clark's Nutcracker and Great Grey Owls have been unofficially observed within a mile of the project area, but the proposed project will have little to no impact on the habitat associated with these species.

## B. HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

6. <u>NOISE/ELECTRICAL EFFECTS</u> Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Increases in existing noise levels?			x		yes	6a
b. Exposure of people to severe or nuisance noise levels?		x				
c. Creation of electrostatic or electromagnetic effects that could be detrimental to human health or property?		x				
d. Interference with radio or television reception and operation?		x				

6a. Development of the area would result in trail construction related noise; however, this would be temporary and limited to daytime hours. The development of an archery range would cause a slight increase in existing noise levels resulting from increased visitation. Regulatory signage and staff would provide measures to minimize noise, and a night closure would be in effect. Typically, archery range traffic is dispersed across the course and do not generate a significant amount of noise. The outdoor range will likely be utilized to hold archery classes and thus some noise will be produced; however, this will be limited in duration, only occur during day-time hours and located far from any residences.

7. <u>LAND USE</u> Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Alteration of or interference with the productivity or profitability of the existing land use of an area?		x				
b. Conflicted with a designated natural area or area of unusual scientific or educational importance?		x				
c. Conflict with any existing land use whose presence would constrain or potentially prohibit the proposed action?		x				
d. Adverse effects on or relocation of residences?		x				

8. <u>RISK/HEALTH HAZARDS</u> Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Risk of an explosion or release of hazardous substances (including, but not limited to oil, pesticides, chemicals, or radiation) in the event of an accident or other forms of disruption?			x		yes	8a.
b. Affect an existing emergency response or emergency evacuation plan, or create a need for a new plan?			x		yes	8b.
c. Creation of any human health hazard or potential hazard?			x		yes	8c.
d. For P-R/D-J, will any chemical toxicants be used? (Also see 8a)			x		yes	8d.

8a. As dictated by the Statewide Integrated Weed Management Plan, herbicide will be applied to control noxious weeds. Contractors and/or staff will apply herbicide according to the product label and county regulations.

8b. FWP would incorporate the archery range expansion into the existing Lone Pine State Park Emergency Action Plan

8c. There is a potential risk of human injury associated with an archery range from errant arrow flight or archery equipment failure. Shooting station and target placement would minimize this risk by ensuring that adequate backstops and sight distances are incorporated.

8d. There is human risk associated with the use of herbicides to control noxious weeds. Application would be conducted by certified operators and in compliance with the FWP Noxious Weed Treatment Plan.

9. <u>COMMUNITY IMPACT</u> Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Alteration of the location, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population of an area?		x				
b. Alteration of the social structure of a community?		x				
c. Alteration of the level or distribution of employment or community or personal income?		x				
d. Changes in industrial or commercial activity?		x				
e. Increased traffic hazards or effects on existing transportation facilities or patterns of movement of people and goods?			x		yes	x

9e. There is the potential of an increase in visitation as a direct result of the archery trail expansion. FWP believes that parking lots within the park are adequate to handle archery range traffic. Lone Pine contains 44 single car parking spaces.

10. <u>PUBLIC SERVICES/TAXES/UTILITIES</u>  Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Will the proposed action have an effect upon or result in a need for new or altered governmental services in any of the following areas: fire or police protection, schools, parks/recreational facilities, roads or other public maintenance, water supply, sewer or septic systems, solid waste disposal, health, or other governmental services? If any, specify:		x				
b. Will the proposed action have an effect upon the local or state tax base and revenues?		x				
c. Will the proposed action result in a need for new facilities or substantial alterations of any of the following utilities: electric power, natural gas, other fuel supply or distribution systems, or communications?		X				
d. Will the proposed action result in increased use of any energy source?		X				
e. Define projected revenue sources						X
f. Define projected maintenance costs.						X

10e. The projected funding would consist of federal funding through the Pittman Robertson Act shooting range grants program and FWP revenues. There is potential for philanthropic contributions as well.

10f.

	Lone Pine Annual Archery Range Operation and Maintenance	
Staffing	Annual Maintenance II: weekly trail work and target repair. (7 hours/week X 24 weeks) = (FTE.08)	\$3,163
Noxious Weed Control	Annually	\$1000.00
Target Skins	6 targets skins replaced 3 times a season X \$35.00/skin (annually) and boundary signs	\$630.00
Supplies and Materials	Range maintenance supplies and equipment	\$500.00
Total Annual		\$5,293
	<b>Lone Pine Archery Range Upgrades</b>	
Targets	6 new targets X \$325/target	\$1950.00
Trail and target placement redesign.	MCC adult crew – one week	\$6,000.00
Signage upgrades	Directional, safety and regulatory signage	\$700.00
Total PR Capital		\$8650.00



11. <u>AESTHETICS/RECREATION</u> Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Alteration of any scenic vista or creation of an aesthetically offensive site or effect that is open to public view?		x				
b. Alteration of the aesthetic character of a community or neighborhood?		x				
c. Alteration of the quality or quantity of recreational/tourism opportunities and settings? (Attach Tourism Report.)				x	Yes	11c
d. For P-R/D-J, will any designated or proposed wild or scenic rivers, trails or wilderness areas be impacted? (Also see 11a, 11c.)		x				

11c. The expansion of the archery range will improve this popular feature of Lone Pine State Park. FWP anticipates more variety and less congestion on the range as an outcome of this proposal. No negative impacts were identified by the Montana Office of Tourism. See Appendix B

12. <u>CULTURAL/HISTORICAL RESOURCES</u> Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Destruction or alteration of any site, structure or object of prehistoric historic, or paleontological importance?		X				
b. Physical change that would affect unique cultural values?		X				
c. Effects on existing religious or sacred uses of a site or area?		X				
d. For P-R/D-J, will the project affect historic or cultural resources? Attach SHPO letter of clearance. (Also see 12.a.)		X				12d

12d. Project will not affect historic or cultural resources. See Appendix C

## SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA

13. <u>SUMMARY EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE</u>  Will the proposed action, considered as a whole:	IMPACT					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (A project or program may result in impacts on two or more separate resources that create a significant effect when considered together or in total.)			x		yes	13b
b. Involve potential risks or adverse effects, which are uncertain but extremely hazardous if they were to occur?		x				
c. Potentially conflict with the substantive requirements of any local, state, or federal law, regulation, standard or formal plan?		x				
d. Establish a precedent or likelihood that future actions with significant environmental impacts will be proposed?		x				
e. Generate substantial debate or controversy about the nature of the impacts that would be created?		x				
f. For P-R/D-J, is the project expected to have organized opposition or generate substantial public controversy? (Also see 13e.)		x				
g. For P-R/D-J, list any federal or state permits required.		x				

13b. FWP feels that proposed action would have a positive cumulative impact. The proposed action would increase the opportunity for safe, well-designed public archery facilities. Archery ranges have an inherent danger given the nature of the activity, but FWP would incorporate safety features into the range design.

### **PART III. NARRATIVE EVALUATION AND COMMENT**

This project will produce minor changes to the subject area with the installation of new shooting stations, trail, and additional targets. Typical use patterns at the existing Lone Pine archery range show lower use in winter months, thus reducing wildlife impacts during critical wintering periods. The proposed 9.3 acre acquisition would be lightly developed for archery, and habitat would remain largely unaltered.

There were no significant negative impacts identified during this review. This proposal would likely provide positive impacts through improved opportunities for the public to safely and conveniently learn and practice archery. There will likely be an ancillary benefit to archery equipment sales and service retailers if this proposal comes to fruition.

### **PART IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

#### **1. Public involvement:**

The public will be notified in the following manners to comment on this current EA, the proposed action and alternatives:

- Two public notices in each of these papers: Flathead Beacon (Kalispell), The Daily Inter Lake (Kalispell), Helena Independent Record.
- One statewide press release
- Public notice on the Fish, Wildlife & Parks web page: <https://fwp.mt.gov/news/public-notices>.

Postcards will be mailed to the neighboring landowners and interested parties to ensure their knowledge of the proposed project and the availability of the documents on the FWP website.

This level of public notice and participation is appropriate for a project of this scope having limited impacts, most of which can be mitigated.

#### **Duration of comment period: 30 days**

The public comment period will extend for (30) thirty days, starting November 9, 2021. Written comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. December 10, 2021 and can be mailed or emailed to the addresses below:

Brian Schwartz  
Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
300 Lone Pine Road  
Kalispell, MT 59901

or

[Bschwartz2@mt.gov](mailto:Bschwartz2@mt.gov)

### **PART V. EA PREPARATION**

**1. Based on the significance criteria evaluated in this EA, is an EIS required? (YES/NO)?**

No, an EIS is not required. MFWP reviews the potential impacts to the wildlife and plant species, visitation and tourism impacts, air and water quality, increase in noise, hazards and risk, cultural resources and recreation. No significant impacts were identified, and an EA is the correct level of review.

**2. Person(s) responsible for preparing the EA:**

Brian Schwartz  
300 Lone Pine Road  
Kalispell, MT 59901  
(406) 755-2706 ext. 3  
[Bschwartz2@mt.gov](mailto:Bschwartz2@mt.gov)

Dave Landstrom  
490 North Meridian Road  
Kalispell, MT 59901  
(406) 751-4574  
[Dlandstrom@mt.gov](mailto:Dlandstrom@mt.gov)

**3. List of agencies or offices consulted during preparation of the EA:**

- Montana Natural Heritage Program
- Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
  - Wildlife biologists for the vegetation and wildlife review
- Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
  - Heritage Program Manager
- Montana State Historic Preservation Office
- Montana Office of Tourism
- Flathead County Weeds and Parks
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Appendixes

- A. Project Qualification List
- B. Montana Office of Tourism Report
- C. Montana Natural Heritage Species of Concern Plant Report
- D. Flathead County Noxious Weed Compliance Checklist
- E. United States Fish and Wildlife Service List of Threatened and Endangered Species
- F. Montana Natural Heritage Species of Concern Animal Report
- G. Montana State Historic Preservation Office

**APPENDIX A**  
**23-1-110 MCA**  
**PROJECT QUALIFICATION CHECKLIST**

**Date:** 9/8/2021

**Person Reviewing:** Brian Schwartz

**Project Location:** Lone Pine State Park

**Description of Proposed Work:** Addition of 9.3 acres and expansion of the current archery trail. The archery trail expansion would include adding roughly ¼ mile of trail, additional shooting stations and additional targets.

The following checklist is intended to be a guide for determining whether a proposed development or improvement is of enough significance to fall under 23-1-110 rules. (Please check ☐ all that apply and comment as necessary.)

- [ X ] A. New roadway or trail built over undisturbed land?  
Comments: *A portion of the new trail route will be on previously undeveloped neighboring property, to be purchased by FWP.*
- [ ] B. New building construction (buildings <100 sf and vault latrines exempt)?  
Comments:
- [ ] C. Any excavation of 20 c.y. or greater?  
Comments:
- [ ] D. New parking lots built over undisturbed land or expansion of existing lot that increases parking capacity by 25% or more?  
Comments:
- [ ] E. Any new shoreline alteration that exceeds a doublewide boat ramp or handicapped fishing station?  
Comments:
- [ ] F. Any new construction into lakes, reservoirs, or streams?  
Comments:
- [ ] G. Any new construction in an area with National Registry quality cultural artifacts (as determined by State Historical Preservation Office)?  
Comments:
- [ ] H. Any new above ground utility lines?  
Comments:
- [ ] I. Any increase or decrease in campsites of 25% or more of an existing number of campsites?  
Comments:
- [ ] J. Proposed project significantly changes the existing features or use pattern; including effects of a series of individual projects?  
Comments:

If any of the above are checked, 23-1-110 MCA rules apply to this proposed work and should be documented on the MEPA/HB495 CHECKLIST. Refer to MEPA/HB495 Cross Reference Summary for further assistance.

APPENDIX B

# TOURISM REPORT

## MONTANA ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (MEPA) & MCA 23-1-110

The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks has initiated the review process as mandated by MCA 23-1-110 and the Montana Environmental Policy Act in its consideration of the project described below. As part of the review process, input and comments are being solicited. Please complete the project name and project description portions and submit this form to:

Jan Stoddard  
Montana Office of Tourism  
301 S. Park Ave.  
Helena, MT 59601

**Project Name:** Lone Pine State Park Archery Trail Enhancement

**Project Description:** FWP proposes to reroute the current archery trail and increase the number of targets for the course. The use of the archery course has more than doubled the past five years. The current trail has not been meeting the needs of archers and users have created new trails wanting longer and more frequent shot opportunities. In some cases, this has created hazardous situations under the right conditions. The proposal to reroute the trail will alleviate safety concerns and give archers the desired shooting opportunities.

1. Would this site development project have an impact on the tourism economy?

NO **YES** If YES, briefly describe:

As described, this project has the potential to positively impact the tourism and recreation industry economy if properly maintained. This project is in alignment with what the Office of Tourism is doing to encourage responsible recreation behavior in Montana. In 2019, Montana's 12.6 million non-resident visitors spent over \$3.8 billion in the state according to a 2020 report from the University of Montana's Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research.

Additionally, recreation access and activities are in high demand for visitors and Montana State Parks are seeing record numbers in visitation. The intent to visit has dramatically increased this year due to the pandemic and a desire for safe outdoor recreation experiences.

2. Does this impending improvement alter the quality or quantity of recreation/tourism opportunities and settings?

NO **YES** If YES, briefly describe:

This project has the potential to improve quality and quantity of tourism and recreational opportunities. This project develops a better defined and safe experience. These improvements are critical to the usability and long-term sustainability of visitor assets for outdoor recreation, including non-resident visitors. With these improvements, we are assuming the agency has determined it has necessary funding for the on-going operations and maintenance once this project is complete.

Signature Jan Stoddard Date 8/30/21

## APPENDIX C

11/5/21, 2:12 PM

MTNHP.org - SOC Report

### Montana Natural Heritage - SOC Report Plant Species of Concern

Species List Last Updated 02/19/2021



A program of the Montana State Library's  
Natural Resource Information System  
operated by the University of Montana.

0 Species

Filtered by the following criteria:

FWP State Park = Lone Pine (based on mapped Species Occurrences)

Expand All | Collapse All

#### Introduction

#### Species of Concern

#### Species of Concern

0 Species

Filtered by the following criteria:

FWP State Park = Lone Pine (based on mapped Species Occurrences)

#### Potential Species of Concern

#### Potential Species of Concern

0 Species

Filtered by the following criteria:

FWP State Park = Lone Pine (based on mapped Species Occurrences)

#### Special Status Species

#### Additions To Statewide List

#### Species Removed From Statewide List

Citation for data on this website:  
Montana Plant Species of Concern Report. Montana Natural Heritage Program. Retrieved on 11/5/2021, from [mtnhp.org/SpeciesOfConcern/?App=P-w](https://mtnhp.org/SpeciesOfConcern/?App=P-w)



## APPENDIX D

### FWP Land Acquisition – Weed Inspection and Report

#### COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST FOR SECTION 7-22-2154, MCA

*FWP Regional Staff: Please return this form to  
FWP Lands Bureau, P.O. Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620*

Property Name: Lone Pine Archery Acquisition

FWP Region: 1

County: Flathead

Date of Property Inspection with County Weed Management District: Nov 1, 2021

County Representative(s): Noel Jinings

FWP Staff: \_\_\_\_\_

County Weed Management District - Inspection Report (Please attach weed inspection report or use the space below to describe noxious weeds present on the property, including observations of weed distribution and abundance):

No weeds present at time of inspection.

Noxious Weed Management Agreement (Please attach applicable weed management agreement or use the space below to indicate how noxious weeds on the property will be managed when the property is under FWP ownership. Indicate if property will be included in an FWP county or regional weed management plan):

Continue to monitor this area as the adjacent private property has a significant St.

Johnswort infestation. If weeds migrate onto FWP properties they should be dealt

in the appropriate manner with appropriate herbicides.

This area will be included in the FWP Regional weed plan.

County Weed Management District Representative: I have inspected the property, and reviewed the weed situation with a representative of Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks. I concur with FWP's weed management plan for the property, as presented above and/or described in the attached information.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 11-1-21



## APPENDIX E

# United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Montana Ecological Services  
Field Office 585 Shephard  
Way, Suite 1  
Helena, MT 59601-6287

Phone: (406) 449-5225 Fax: (406) 449-5339

In Reply Refer To:

October 27, 2021

Consultation Code: 06E11000-2022-SLI-0041 Event Code:

06E11000-2022-E-00103

Project Name: Lone Pine SP Archery Range expansion

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)).

(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan ([http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle\\_guidance.html](http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html)). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at:

<http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

# Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

**Montana Ecological Services Field Office**

585 Shephard Way, Suite 1  
Helena, MT 59601-6287  
(406) 449-5225

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## Project Summary

Consultation Code: 06E11000-2022-SLI-0041 Event Code:

Some(06E11000-2022-E-00103)

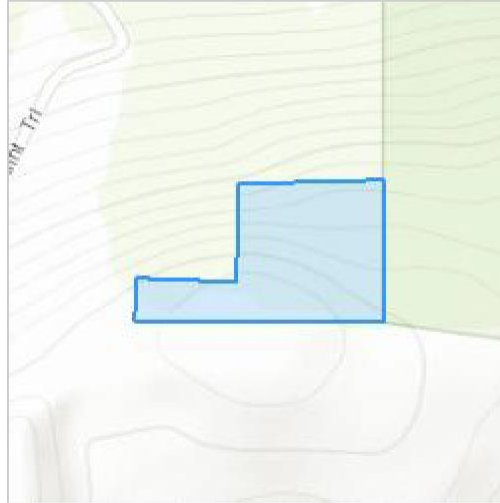
Project Name: Lone Pine SP Archery Range expansionProject

Type: Federal Grant / Loan Related

Project Description: Purchase a parcel of property adjacent to the Park and existing range andthen expand the range onto this parcel.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@48.17645495,-114.34774798902112,14z>



Counties: Flathead County, Montana

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## Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 5 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

### Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Canada Lynx <i>Lynx canadensis</i> Population: Wherever Found in Contiguous U.S. There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3652">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3652</a>	Threatened
Grizzly Bear <i>Ursus arctos horribilis</i> Population: U.S.A., conterminous (lower 48) States, except where listed as an experimental population There is <b>proposed</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7642">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7642</a>	Threatened

### Birds

NAME	STATUS
Yellow-billed Cuckoo <i>Coccyzus americanus</i> Population: Western U.S. DPS There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3911">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3911</a>	Threatened

**Insects**

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743</a>	Candidate

**Flowering Plants**

NAME	STATUS
Spalding's Catchfly <i>Silene spaldingii</i> There is <b>proposed</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3681">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3681</a>	Threatened



**Critical habitats**

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.


## APPENDIX F

11/5/21, 2:10 PM

MTNHP.org - SOC Report

Montana Natural Heritage - SOC Report

Species List Last Updated 02/19/2021



A program of the Montana State Library's  
Natural Resource Information System  
operated by the University of Montana.

1 Species of Concern

1 Special Status Species

Filtered by the following criteria:

FWP State Park = Lone Pine (based on mapped Species Occurrences)

Expand All | Collapse All

Introduction

Species of Concern

Species of Concern

1 Species

Filtered by the following criteria:

FWP State Park = Lone Pine (based on mapped Species Occurrences)

BIRDS (AVES)

FWP STATE PARK = LONE PINE (based on mapped Species Occurrences)

1 SPECIES

Species Occurrences

SCIENTIFIC NAME COMMON NAME TAXA SORT	FAMILY (SCIENTIFIC) FAMILY (COMMON)	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	USFWS	USFS	BLM	FWP SWAP	% OF GLOBAL BREEDING RANGE IN MT	% OF MT THAT IS BREEDING RANGE	HABITAT
Ardea herodias Great Blue Heron	Ardeidae Bitterns / Egrets / Herons / Night-Herons	G5	S3	M5T4			SGCN3	3%	100%	Riparian forest
Species Occurrences verified in these Counties: Beaverhead, Big Horn, Blaine, Broadwater, Carbon, Carter, Cascade, Chouteau, Custer, Dawson, Deer Lodge, Fallon, Fergus, Flathead, Gallatin, Garfield, Glacier, Golden Valley, Granite, Hill, Jefferson, Judith Basin, Lake, Lewis and Clark, Liberty, Lincoln, Madison, McCone, Meagher, Mineral, Missoula, Musselshell, Park, Petroleum, Phillips, Pondera, Powder River, Powell, Prairie, Ravalli, Richland, Roosevelt, Rosebud, Sanders, Sheridan, Silver Bow, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Teton, Treasure, Valley, Wheatland, Wibaux, Yellowstone State Rank Reason: Small breeding population size, evidence of recent declines, and declining regeneration of riparian cottonwood forests due to altered hydrology and grazing.										

Potential Species of Concern

Potential Species of Concern

0 Species

Filtered by the following criteria:

FWP State Park = Lone Pine (based on mapped Species Occurrences)

Special Status Species

Additions To Statewide List

Species Removed From Statewide List

Species of Greatest Inventory Need

Citation for data on this website:

Montana Animal Species of Concern Report. Montana Natural Heritage Program and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. Retrieved on 11/5/2021, from [mtnhp.org/SpeciesOfConcern?AccP=8](https://mtnhp.org/SpeciesOfConcern?AccP=8)

**APPENDIX G**

*Historic Preservation  
Museum  
Outreach & Interpretation  
Publications  
Research Center*

August 5, 2021

Rachel Reckin, Ph.D.  
Heritage Program Manager  
Montana State Parks  
P.O. Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701

Re: Bridge Replacement and Archery Range Additions, Lone Pine State Park, Flathead Co.

Dear Dr. Reckin:

Thank you for your letter (received August 4, 2021) regarding the bridge replacement, trail work, and new archery targets at Lone Pine State Park. We concur on your determination of No Historic Properties Affected.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me at (406) 444-7719 or [Laura.Evilsizer@MT.gov](mailto:Laura.Evilsizer@MT.gov). Thank you for consulting with us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laura Evilsizer".

Laura Evilsizer, M.A.  
Review and Compliance Officer  
Montana State Historic Preservation Office

